

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 17, 1999
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman
Debbie Kohn, Avondale
Jeanine Guy for Joe Blanton, Buckeye
*Sandra Finkbeiner, Cave Creek
Bob Pazera, Chandler
Unappointed, El Mirage
Geir Sverdrup, Fountain Hills
*Tina Notah, Gila River Indian Community
*Ralph Vasquez, Gila Bend
Ricardo Toris, Glendale

Karen Shurko, Goodyear
*Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park
Dan Hansing, Mesa
Neil Urban, Maricopa County
Jenifer Corey, Peoria
Fred Osgood, Phoenix
Harry Higgins, Scottsdale
Sharon Sargent-Flack, Surprise
Neil Calfee, Tempe
Jerry Stricklin, Wickenburg
*Robert Tatro, Youngtown

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Susan Abbott, Bureau of the Census
Hamid Arshadi, Gilbert
Eric Buskirk, Research Advisory Services
Jim Howard, Bureau of the Census
Kyle McMaster, Chandler
Scott Miller, RPTA

Heidi Pahl, MAG
Tony Sissons, Research Advisory Services Inc.
Shiloh Thatcher, Maricopa County
Harry Wolfe, MAG
Don Worley, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Pettit at 10:06 a.m.

2. Call to the Audience

No requests were received from members of the audience to address the MAG POPTAC.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 17, 1999

It was moved by Harry Higgins, seconded by Geir Sverdrup and unanimously recommended to approve the meeting minutes of April 17, 1999.

4. Status Report on Census 2000

Susan Abbott, the Local Government Coordinator with the Census Bureau provided a status report on efforts to establish complete count committees. She also announced that the Local Census Offices will be holding training for interviewers.

Harry Wolfe asked Mark Hellfritz if member agencies would have an opportunity to review the address file for Special Places. Mr. Hellfritz responded that if there were any such opportunity it would occur in the fall.

5. Census Bureau Address Update Programs

Harry Wolfe explained that earlier in the month updated housing counts by block for jurisdictions in the Update/Leave area were scheduled to be forwarded to the Census Bureau. Mr. Wolfe provided a status report on jurisdictions that submitted their updated counts and the process by which the Census Bureau will conduct field work to verify discrepancies between local jurisdiction and Census Bureau housing unit counts by block. He also discussed a change in the process to verify discrepancies.

Jim Howard reported that the deadlines for providing updated addresses in the Update/Leave area occurred at the beginning of June with the exception of Maricopa County. He reported that because there were discrepancies between the local governments updated addresses and the Census Bureau's file, census personnel would be sent into the field to verify the addresses.

Harry Higgins asked when jurisdictions would receive a new map and the updated address files for review. Jim Howard estimated that it would be in about one month. He also mentioned that cities in the Mailout/Mailback area and the Update/Leave area would have an opportunity to review the addresses.

Harry Wolfe encouraged member agencies to collect as much information as possible to corroborate the presence of addresses since it would be helpful later if a jurisdiction wanted to file an appeal.

6. Statistical Areas Program

Shiloh Thatcher noted that Maricopa County forwarded recommended census tract and block group changes to the Census Bureau at the end of April. She added that verification maps will be returned to the County in the fall.

Harry Wolfe asked what recommendations were made with respect to Census Designated Places (CDPs). Ms Thatcher responded that the boundaries of the Sun City West CDP were being expanded and that Luke Air Force Base was eliminated as a CDP since it had been annexed by the City of Glendale. She also noted that the County requested two new CDPs: Rio Verde, which also included Tonto Verde and New River.

7. New Construction Program

Harry Wolfe provided a status report on the New Construction Program established by the Census Bureau to identify housing units constructed between January 15, 2000 and April 1, 2000. Mark Hellfritz noted that the Bureau would be sending out invitations to local governments in October asking whether they wanted to participate in the program. He said that as the Census date approaches that

the Bureau would inform local governments of the specific requirements for the program.

Geir Sverdrup expressed concern that the new construction program would not be available to jurisdictions in the Update/Leave area. Jim Howard encouraged local governments to keep in close contact with the local census offices to ensure that new construction is counted.

8. Recommended Changes to the MAG Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) System

Harry Wolfe reported that the latest MAG Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) system was developed by MAG in 1996 and was used for developing socioeconomic projections using the 1995 Special Census as the base. He also noted that growth in the region, the need to supply the Census Bureau with Traffic Analysis Zones for the Census Transportation Planning Package and the need to develop a new set of socioeconomic projections based on the results of Census 2000 have necessitated a reevaluation of some of the TAZs by the Transportation Systems Analysis Group at MAG.

Mr. Wolfe stated that MAG staff conferred with transportation planners in member agencies identified by the Systems Analysis Group on potential recommendations for changes to TAZ zones; and that the input received will be incorporated into a proposed new TAZ system.

Rita Walton indicated that many of the new TAZs are in areas that currently have little or no population.

9. Building Permit Completions

Harry Wolfe noted that building permit completions for the first quarter of 1999 were due on May 1, 1999. He urged jurisdictions that had not yet provided MAG with permit completions for this quarter and previous quarters to submit them as soon as possible. He also emphasized that the deadline for submitting permit completions to DES for computing July 1, 1999 Municipality Resident Population Estimates was rapidly approaching; and that it was crucial that member agencies provide MAG with permit completions to be credited with that growth in 1999. He mentioned that because of extremely tight deadlines, MAG is recommending that member agencies submit permit completions for the quarter ending June 30, 1999 to us as soon after July 1, 1999 as possible. Mr. Wolfe explained that the population updates are used for establishing expenditure limitations where appropriate, distributing \$23 million in lottery funds, and in computing municipality per capita water use targets.

10. Status Report on MAG Information Center

Rita Walton provided a status report on the MAG Information Center (MAGIC). Ms. Walton provided an overview of the types of projects that were performed through MAGIC during the past year and noted that an RFP for revising MAG data sets to be consistent with Census 2000 was being prepared.

11. Next Meeting of the MAG POPTAC

Harry Wolfe indicated that the next meeting of the MAG POPTAC was scheduled for July 15, 1999.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.